(b) and (c) The Government constantly review the security environment and accordingly decide to induct appropriate equipment and weapon system to make arrangements for adequate defence preparedness.

Suicide by a Woman Defence Officer

2763. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a woman officer of 5071 ASC Battalion, posted at Northern Command HQ in Udhampur, committed suicide; if so, what where the reasons that led to the suicide;

(b) what is the number of incidents that have taken place till date, where the women officers have either complained of harassment or committed suicide; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to avoid this kind of situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir. The officer was under depression for which she was undergoing psychotherapy.

(b) The number of such cases reported since 2003 has been as follows:

	2003		2004		2005		2006 (till date)	
	Suicide	Harass-ment	Suicide	Harass-ment	Suicide	Harass-ment	Suicide	Harass-ment
Army	Nil	Nil	Nil	03	Nil	01	01	02
Navy	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Air Force	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	02	Nil	Nil
Medical, Dental and Nursing services	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	02	Nil	01	Nil
TOTAL :	Nil	Nil	Nil	03	02	03	02	02

(c) A system of educating and counselling on stress related issues, which cover suicides also, already existes in the Defence forces. This includes increased formal and informal interaction between senior and junior officers; strengthening time tested reporting and feedback system in the unit; using services of psychiatrists and counsellors to conduct lectures/presentations and educate officers/personnel; identifying personnel under stress and carrying out psychological conditioning and counselling of identified individuals. Officers and other personnel in the Services have been sensitized on the subject. Two Psychiatric centres in the Northern and Eastern Commands have been augmented by posting additional psychiatrists.

Recognition of Noor Inayat Khan's bravery

2764. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRA SEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recently published story of the heroism and sacrifice of Noor Inayat Khan, the first woman to have landed in an enemy territory of occupied France in World War-II;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to recognize this example of bravery and sacrifice, even at this belated stage, since her story would inspire many young people today and in future also; and

(c) whether Government would consider instituting an award in the name of Noor Inayat Khan, for acts of bravery, as young civilian and member of civil defence force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal before the Government.

Inflated bills for treatment of Ex-Servicemen

2765. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some private hospitals have been found preferring inflated bills, by carrying out needless treatment of ex-servicemen under Ex-servicemen Contributory Health Scheme;